

Amusements.

ACADEMY OF MUSIC.—\$2.50.—The Last of the Romans.
BROADWAY THEATRE.—2-8.15.—The Ghetto.
CASINO.—2-8.15.—The Bounders.
EDWARD THEATRE.—8-8.15.—The Girl from Maxim's.
EDEN THEATRE.—8-8.15.—The King's Musketeers.
EDEN MUSEUM.—Grand Concert and Cinema.
EMPIRE THEATRE.—\$2.50.—The Tyranny of Tears.
FIFTH AVENUE THEATRE.—8-8.15.—A Young Woman.
FOURTEENTH STREET THEATRE.—8-8.15.—A Young Woman.
GARRETT THEATRE.—8-10.30.—The Man o' War's Man.
HAROLD HOLLOWAY.—Wall Street.
MARBLE OPERA HOUSE.—A. Moth and the Flame.
HERALD SQUARE THEATRE.—2-8.15.—The Only Way.
KNICKERBOKER THEATRE.—8-8.15.—Cyrano de Bergerac.
KOSTER & BEAUS.—Vaudeville.
LORD & THOMPSON.—11-12.30.—Miss Hebe.
MAUDIE.—\$2.50.—The Man in the Moon.
NEW YORK THEATRE.—\$2.50.—The Man in the Moon.
PASTORAL.—Continuous Performance.
ROYAL GARDEN.—8-8.15.—Orchestral Concerts.
VICTORIA ROOF GARDEN.—Vaudeville.
WALLACK'S.—8-8.30.—The Gallo.

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New-York Daily Tribune.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 1899.

THE NEWS THIS MORNING.

FOREIGN.—Call for a Cabinet Council was issued in London, and it is believed that further action in the Transvaal question will be deferred until further reinforcements from Great Britain reach the Cape. — The French Ministers issued a pardon to Captain Alfred Dreyfus, who had been released from prison in Paris. — The venerable Scheuer-Kestner, former Vice-President of the French Senate and a zealous supporter of Dreyfus, died. — Queen Wilhelmina of Holland opened the State General and expressed hope in the result of the Peace Conference. — Sir Richard Webster concluded his summing up in the session of the Venezuelan Arbitration Commission at Paris, and Mr. Harrison began the final argument. — The trial of Admiral Montojo began at Madrid.

DOMESTIC.—Secretary Root received a dispatch from General Otis saying that his insurance leaders had asked for a conference with him, and also offered to release Americans held as prisoners. — The War Department was informed of the death of Major Lieutenant Colonel J. D. Miley, inspector general on the staff of General Otis. — Rear Admiral Schley told the President that he would cheerfully accept command of the South Atlantic Station, or any other assignment which might be given to him. — Senator Butler advocated the deportation of negroes to end racial strife. — Congressman Shattuck wrote another sharp letter to Edward Atkinson of Boston, charging him with corruption. — The Maryland Democrats discussed a purpose of making their campaign on alleged negro lawlessness under Republican control of the State. — The Cherokee of the Clyde Line, went ashore on Nassau Island, the passengers being taken off in safety. — A woman jumped from a New York central train going at high speed and was picked up unharmed. — Three hundred delegates were present at the convention of the League of American Municipalities in Syracuse.

CLIMATE.—Suns are strong and higher. — Winners at Gravesend, Bob Eder, Clonsilla, Clinton, Alpen, Metcalf, Mat, John C. Sheahan defeated the Croker forces at the primaries in the LXIX Assembly District. — F. Norton Goddard was elected Republican leader in the XXII Assembly District, defeating Richard M. Lush and James L. Stewart, Lush being the regular organization candidate; Republican primaries were generally held in nearly other contest held in the LXIX District. — Frank and James W. Ferry defeated John S. Bainbridge. — At the Mazet Committee meeting Mr. Moss continued his investigation of the Rampart job. — It was said that the work of the Dewey celebration committee were greatly hampered by the difficulty over the appropriation for the stands. — Ex-Judge Charles P. Daly died at his summer home on Long Island. — William C. Tamm, who was elected director of the New York Central Rail road, to succeed the late Cornelius Vanderbilt, died. — Evelyn H. Baldwin of the Wellman Arctic expedition, returned and talked of the expedition. — Mr. and Mrs. Howard Gould returned from their yachting cruise.

THE WEATHER.—Forecast for to-day: Rain. The temperature yesterday: Highest, 75 degrees; lowest, 66; average, 70%.

THE DREYFUS PARDON.

Captain Dreyfus is free. This is the first thought raised by the day's news from Paris, causing a worldwide thrill of joy and thanksgiving. That unhappy man will no more have to bear in person the burden of wicked malice directed against a whole people. He will no longer suffer a living death, and worse than death: no longer be the sport and prey of men more brutal than Yahoos; no more be held in hideous suspense between subtle and madness. Freedom, peace, safety, the love of family and friends, and the sympathy of the humane world, are henceforth his, as partial solace for the horrors of the past. It is true that he is not technically vindicated. Indeed, the fact of pardon presumes the fact of guilt. He might have preferred to remain in durance until the battle could be fought out in court and the unjust sentence reversed, and himself set free not with a pardon, but with an acquittal. That would have been more satisfactory. But the practical condition with which he and his friends and the Government were confronted was that he would not live long enough for that. The only chance of saving his life was in his immediate release from prison, and that could be effected only through a pardon.

These considerations are technical. In a broader sense Captain Dreyfus needs no further vindication. Before the bar of public opinion and of common justice he is already fully vindicated, and his persecutors and judges—between whom the difference is theoretical rather than real—are hopelessly condemned. We have already shown how the verdict of the first court martial was condemned by that of the second. Equally was that of the second condemned by its own makers, and that condemnation has been confirmed by the action of the Government. "Treason, with extenuating circumstances," was either a self-stultifying verdict or it was one deliberately thus framed in order to suggest and facilitate its own overthrow; in which latter case it brands its makers with the cowardice of not daring to bring in the verdict which they wanted to and which they knew to be just. In any case, the Government brushes it contemptuously aside. There is no waiting to see what the Military Court of Revision might do. The innocent prisoner is not to be subjected to danger of that tribunal's proving as unjust as the two courts martial have been. The Government reaches out its powerful hand and removes him, by one possible means, from the clutches of the military ring, and by that act administrators to the latter a crushing rebuke. It is said that Captain Dreyfus has relinquished his appeal to the Military Court of Revision. That is a matter of course. Such an appeal would have been fruitless, any way, because that court would have had no power to retry him or to declare him innocent, but merely to send him back to the court martial for amendment of its procedure against him. It will still be possible, however, to bring the case, even after the

pardon, before the Court of Cassation, which has shown itself to be an honest and fearless tribunal of real justice, and it may quash and annul the judgment of the Rennes court, leaving it to the discretion of the Government whether or not to order a new trial. Of course, there would be no new trial of a pardoned man, and so the judgment would remain annulled and Captain Dreyfus would be technically, as well as morally, vindicated.

We have said his persecutors are condemned. They condemned themselves in the strongest manner by their demeanor, their acts, their words and their actual confessions during the trial at Rennes. They are condemned by the specific declarations of the Italian Government and of the German Emperor in person. They are once more condemned by the action of the French Government itself; for, of course, it is simply incredible that the Government would have pardoned Captain Dreyfus had it believed the Mercier-Roger-Gonse charges against him to be true. In pardoning him it virtually says, in the clearest manner, that it regards those charges as false. And if those charges be false, their makers are convicted of falsehood. There is no room for a plea of error or mistaken zeal. Either the charges are true, or they are deliberate, studied, wilful falsehoods. The judgment of the world, reinforced by this act of pardon, is to the latter effect.

Comedy and tragedy make the whole drama of life—for comedy is any work with a happy ending. Captain Dreyfus regains his liberty. And at the selfsame moment one of his foremost champions, the venerated statesman who led the way for justice, dies. Let it be remembered that while it was the gallant Colonel Picquet who first moved for justice to Captain Dreyfus within the army, it was M. Scheuer-Kestner who did so in civil life. He was the plowman of truth, Zola, Clemenceau, Demange, Labori, Cormely, Pressensé, Guyot and all the rest of the new Legion of Honor, to all of whom high praise is to be given, were his followers. It was Scheuer-Kestner who led the way. He came down from his exalted place in the Senate, crowned with the honors of statecraft and of science, to contend as with wild beasts in the arena, and to be, as he himself said, "dragged in the mud, pronounced a dishonest man, treated as a wretch, covered with insults." He has fallen in the very hour of triumph, the triumph of what he himself described as the cause of humanity, truth, justice. He could have wished no more glorious ending of his memorable career.

THE TRANSVAAL RECORD.

Numerous correspondents have asked us for a succinct statement of the negotiations between Great Britain and the Transvaal. Such statements have been given from time to time in our columns, but at risk of repetition we shall endeavor to comply with the requests and review the record in chronological order.

The present negotiations were provoked by the presentation to the British Government of a petition signed by 21,084 Outlanders of the Transvaal, praying for redress of grievances and a restoration of the political rights guaranteed to them under the conventions of 1881 and 1884. This address was presented on March 28 last, and on May 5 was fully indorsed by the British Governor of Cape Colony. Sir Alfred Milner. Five days later, at the instance of both the Colonial Secretary, Mr. Chamberlain, and Sir Alfred Milner, a friendly conference with the Transvaal Government was requested. It met on neutral ground at Bloemfontein on May 31. On the eve of the conference the Transvaal Government made a number of arrests for high treason at Johannesburg. The "conspirators" arrested were secret service spies in its own employ, and the whole business was quickly exposed as a shallow and transparent fraud.

At the Bloemfontein conference Sir Alfred Milner proposed a five years' retrospective franchise, a naturalization oath similar to that in the Orange Free State, full right to vote immediately upon naturalization, and a fair representation of the new voters in the Legislature. This President Kruger declared would be "tantamount to handing the country over to foreigners," and he made a counter proposal of a seven years' franchise, not fully retrospective, under which every man would have to abandon his old citizenship and be a "man without a country" for several years before getting the rights of new citizenship, and even then his admission to Transvaal citizenship would be only partial, and would be granted not as a matter of right, but on sufferance, at the will of a series of Boer officials. President Kruger would listen to nothing more than this, and the conference ended in failure.

President Kruger returned to Pretoria and caused the enactment of a new franchise law on the basis of his Bloemfontein proposals. The British Government protested in advance that such a law would be unsatisfactory, and so pronounced it after its passage. On July 12 the Transvaal adopted another law granting the franchise again not as a right, but at the pleasure of Boer officials. — In seven years, reckoned retrospectively, it was a clumsy and obscurely worded law, which no one could understand. But the British Government was inclined to accept it, and was willing to waive the difference between five years and seven years, provided it could be assured that the law really meant what it purported to mean and would be administered in good faith. Accordingly, it proposed on July 31 another conference, to examine the text of the law and to consider its probable effect.

The Transvaal Government waited nearly three weeks before answering this proposal, in which time it imported ammunition and made all possible military preparations. Then, on August 19, it replied, practically declining the British offer, and making a substitute offer of a five years' retrospective franchise and increased representation, provided Great Britain would pledge itself never again to interfere in Transvaal affairs, no longer to insist upon assertion of its suzerainty, and to concede arbitration, from which foreign elements other than that of the Orange Free State should be excluded. The British Government replied on August 28 that, while it hoped no further intervention would be necessary, it could not pledge itself not to protect its subjects in the Transvaal if they should need protection; that it must stand by its previous assertions of suzerainty; that it was willing to consider the scheme of arbitration proposed, but that there were some matters not proper for arbitration which required prompt settlement, to which end it renewed its proposal for a conference. To this the Transvaal replied on September 2 by offering conditionally to enter a conference, but by withdrawing at the same time the whole franchise offer and insisting upon absolute abrogation of the British suzerainty and the erection of the Transvaal into "a sovereign international State."

The British Government replied to this on September 13 by practically renewing the Transvaal's own proposal of August 19 of a five years' franchise and increased representation, with nonforeign arbitration, but leaving the suzerainty question in statu quo and suggesting that the new representatives of the Outlanders in the Transvaal Legislature should be permitted to speak English, just as "Dutchmen in the Cape Legislature are permitted to speak Dutch." To this, finally, the Transvaal made the reply which has just been published, accusing the British Government of bad faith, and declaring that all former offers are now with-

drawn, but guardedly agreeing to a conference, or joint commission of inquiry, which shall presumably begin consideration of the whole case over again from the beginning. Such, in brief, is the record of the negotiations down to the present day. We shall see what the morrow will bring forth.

THE NEW GEORGE FRED WILLIAMS.

The colloquy which took place last Monday in Chicago between George Fred Williams, of Massachusetts, and John R. McLean, of Ohio, disclosed a strain of calculating unscrupulousness in New-England's greatest silver leader quite at variance with his record for quixotic and emotional statesmanship. The two distinguished interlocutors had met as members of a sub-committee of the Democratic National Committee, charged with putting the party machinery in working order for the Presidential campaign. Mr. Williams had found himself unable to give very much time to the business on hand, being obliged to hurry back to Massachusetts to supervise the election this week by the Democratic State Convention of thirty delegates to hold seats in the Democratic National Convention of June or July next. His hurried departure provoked an expression of surprise from Mr. McLean that any State should find it necessary or advantageous to send delegates to the National Convention so far in advance. To this the Massachusetts statesman is said to have replied that he was at present in control of the party organization, and could name a delegation of radical silver men, whereas his opponents might be able to pick up a few votes were the elections postponed, as has been customary, until next winter or next spring.

So frank an avowal by Mr. Williams of his purpose to take snap judgment on the Democrats of Massachusetts naturally astonished the assembled committeemen, who had just subscribed to a touching appeal for party harmony and unity and the adjustment of all local and factional differences in the general party interest. Had such a high handed and arbitrary programme been announced by Mr. Goebel, the "bold up" chief of the Kentucky Democracy, or even by the party leaders in New-York, who had already experimented—though disastrously—with one "midwinter" convention, no special wonder might have been excited. But a convert to Jeffersonianism who had sat at the feet of Altgeld and had had his zeal for popular rights blinded by the memorable "cross of gold" eloquence of Bryan should exhibit such indifference to the opinions and wishes of Democratic voters seemed to shock the sensibilities of the not too susceptible political optimists collected about the Democratic council board.

It is well understood that the Mayor is preparing to assume a gracious mien toward the distinguished visitor, and there is reason to hope that the artificial sunshine of his disposition will be sufficient to irradiate the whole circle of his personal contact for the time of the festivities. If Frank Moss and all Mugwumps are carefully kept from his presence at critical moments, there is some ground for hope that the occasion may pass without any unsightly incidents. Chief Dewey, too, is on his good behavior. However contented he may be to have disorder and robbery in the streets for New-Yorkers to endure, he appreciates the obligation upon him to keep order while the visitors are in town. Accordingly, all pickpockets, burglars and bungo steerers are warned to get out of the city or prepare to spend the Dewey holidays in the workhouse. We are not informed that the vicious and criminal activities which are defended as helping to make this a "lively town" are to be interfered with. Perhaps the Chief thinks that the thousands of visitors who are coming to see the Admiral have the same idea of "a good time" as the Tammany politicians, and is going to give them a full measure of hospitality. The line is drawn on robbery, and we believe the badger game is being officially discouraged with unexpected energy, but this is different from making a "Puritan city," and Mr. Dewey's arrangements to keep criminals in check do not, it is understood, include an attack on the gambling houses or other illegal pleasure resorts, which the Hon. "Hinky Dink" of Chicago, found so easily on occasion of his recent visit and commanded as a fruitful source of enjoyment to rural guests. Mr. Dewey will not interfere with such things, but burglars and pickpockets had better take warning.

The Chief is also going to try to make his men emulate the Mayor in the matter of sudden politeness. He has issued an order that "they must answer all proper questions in a civil and careful manner, and in their treatment of the public must be uniformly courteous and polite." We hope the strain of this requirement will not utterly unman them, and perhaps if they come out from the doors and arcways where they lounge evenings and practise with easy beginnings for the next ten days they may be able without impairing their efficiency to charm visitors and surprise New-Yorkers by an unforeseen exhibition of good manners.

Of course, these reforms are important as contributing to the success of the celebration, but it is just possible that they may have a more lasting effect. Suppose the Mayor should discover that it was not such a terrible hardship after all to keep his temper. He probably means well. His trouble is lack of practice. Several years of playing the martinet of a petty court got him in the habit of being outrageous. If he once gets used to politeness he may like it and be all right thereafter. And so, too, with the police. If they learn to be polite and accommodating for a week, they may find the habit a pleasant one. If they can keep criminals in check by a special effort when the city is crowded, perhaps they will not find it an unreasonable task to restrain them under less trying circumstances. Let us hope so at least. Let us hope, also, that the Street Cleaning Department will do a thorough job of sweeping before Dewey comes, and then keep up the good work. The dirt and refuse in our side streets have recently become especially noticeable. It is time that some great occasion brings out the best in us.

It must be considered that there is additional expense involved in each process from the ore to the latest finished product. Further labor is required, with its skill and its advance in wages. More costly machinery must be employed, and the interest on its cost is a further charge. In each process there is expenditure of fuel, which has also advanced greatly in price, and some loss of the material transformed, which cannot be considered in detail within the limits of an article, since it varies with different processes and even in different works. From pig to billets the loss was reckoned at 62 per cent in Commissioner Wright's report on cost of production, from pig to rails it is reckoned at 15 per cent by Mr. Swan, of the Iron and Steel Association, and as large a ratio may be reckoned for beams and angles, steel plates and rods, and it is presumably higher in the manufacture of bars, common and refined, while from pig to hoops, nails, wire and sheets it appears to be at least 20 per cent. Whether accurate or not in particular cases, these figures serve to test fairly the increase in margin between the cost of materials and the prices of products at different dates. In the following table the first two columns give in cents and decimals of a cent per pound the quotations for different products January 1 and September 6; the third and fourth columns show the differences between the cost of pig increased by the percentages above stated and the prices of products at the two dates, and the fifth column shows the increase in that difference compared with the increase of 114 per cent in the price of Bessemer pig from Jan. 1 to Sept. 6, 1899.

The peculiar type of ethics known to philosophers as "andyardianism" seems to have extended its contagion to the transplanted hough. There have been two or three deplorable exhibitions of blackguardism of late on the Brooklyn baseball grounds. This is a pity. The leaders and prospective champions ought to set an example of sportsmanship in manners as well as of successful playing, and so ought their admiring spectators. Bowdysm should be left to the tall end cripples and misfits.

The owners of Rampage stock appear to recognize the discreditable character of their company's dealings with the city officials. They are as secret about their holdings as they naturally would be when identified with a disgraceful transaction.